

ON TENSOR PRODUCTS OF POLYNOMIAL REPRESENTATIONS

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ABSTRACT. We determine the necessary and sufficient combinatorial conditions for which the tensor product of two irreducible polynomial representations of $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ is isomorphic to another. As a consequence we discover families of Littlewood-Richardson coefficients that are non-zero, and a condition on Schur non-negativity.

1. INTRODUCTION

It is well known that the representation theory of $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ is intimately connected to the combinatorics of partitions [7, Chapter 7: Appendix 2]. Before we address the main problem in this paper that concerns the representations of $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$, we will briefly review this connection.

Recall a *partition* λ of a positive integer m , denoted $\lambda \vdash m$, is a list of positive integers $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_{\ell(\lambda)} > 0$ whose sum is m . We call m the *size* of λ , the λ_i the *parts* of λ and $\ell(\lambda)$ the *length* of λ . We also let $\lambda = 0$ be the unique partition of 0, called the *empty partition* of length 0. Every partition corresponds naturally to a (*Ferrers*) *diagram of shape* λ , which consists of an array of m boxes such that there are λ_i left justified boxes in row i , where the rows are read from top to bottom. By abuse of notation we also denote this diagram by λ . In the following example the boxes are denoted by \times .

Example 1.1.

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 & \times & \times & \times & \times \\
 & \times & \times & \times & \\
 43211 & = & \times & \times & \\
 & \times & & & \\
 & \times & & &
 \end{array}$$

Moreover, given partitions λ, μ such that $\lambda_i \geq \mu_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq \ell(\mu)$, if we consider the boxes of μ to be situated in the top left corner of λ then we say that μ is a *subdiagram* of λ , and the *skew diagram* of shape λ/μ is the array of boxes contained in λ but not in μ . Again we abuse notation and denote this skew diagram by λ/μ .

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Example 1.2.

$$43211/21 = \begin{array}{cc} & \times & \times \\ & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \\ \times & & \\ \times & & \end{array}$$

Furthermore, given a (skew) diagram, we can fill the boxes with positive integers to form a *tableau* T and if T contains $c_1(T)$ 1s, $c_2(T)$ 2s, \dots then we say it has *content* $c(T) = c_1(T)c_2(T)\dots$. With this in mind we are able to state the connection between $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ and partitions of n as follows.

The irreducible polynomial representations ϕ^λ of $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ are indexed by partitions λ such that $\ell(\lambda) \leq n$ and given two irreducible polynomial representations of $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$, ϕ^μ and ϕ^ν , one has

$$\text{char } (\phi^\mu \otimes \phi^\nu) = \sum_{\substack{\lambda \\ \ell(\lambda) \leq n}} c_{\mu\nu}^\lambda \text{char } \phi^\lambda$$

where $c_{\mu\nu}^\lambda$ is the number of tableaux T of shape λ/μ such that

- (i) the entries in the rows weakly increase from left to right
- (ii) the entries in the columns strictly increase from top to bottom
- (iii) $c(T) = \nu_1\nu_2\dots$
- (iv) when we read the entries from right to left and top to bottom the number of i s we have read is always greater than or equal to the number of $(i+1)$ s we have read.

This method for computing the $c_{\mu\nu}^\lambda$ is called the *Littlewood-Richardson rule*. As one might expect the $c_{\mu\nu}^\lambda$ are called *Littlewood-Richardson coefficients*. Observe we could have equally well chosen conditions (i)-(iv) to read

- (i) the entries in the rows weakly increase from *right to left*
- (ii) the entries in the columns strictly increase from *bottom to top*
- (iii) $c(T) = \nu_1\nu_2\dots$
- (iv) when we read the entries from *left to right and bottom to top* the number of i s we have read is always greater than or equal to the number of $(i+1)$ s we have read.

For convenience we will call this the *reverse Littlewood-Richardson rule*.

Example 1.3. To illustrate both rules we now compute $c_{21,21}^{321}$. We will replace each box with the number it contains.

Using the Littlewood-Richardson rule we obtain $c_{21,21}^{321} = 2$ from the tableaux $\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{smallmatrix}$ and $\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{smallmatrix}$. Meanwhile, using the reverse Littlewood-Richardson rule we also obtain $c_{21,21}^{321} = 2$ from the tableaux $\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{smallmatrix}$ and $\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{smallmatrix} \begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{smallmatrix}$.

Another place where Littlewood-Richardson coefficients arise is in the algebra of symmetric functions $\Lambda = \oplus_{m \geq 0} \Lambda^m$, which is a subalgebra of $\mathbb{Z}[[x_1, x_2, \dots]]$ invariant under the natural action of the symmetric group. Each Λ^m is spanned by $\{s_\lambda\}_{\lambda \vdash m}$ where $s_0 := 1$ and

$$(1) \quad s_\lambda := \sum_T x^T.$$

The sum is over all tableaux T that satisfy conditions (i) and (ii) of the Littlewood-Richardson rule and $x^T := \prod_i x_i^{c_i(T)}$. For partitions λ, μ, ν the structure coefficients of these *Schur functions* satisfy

$$s_\mu s_\nu = \sum_\lambda c_{\mu\nu}^\lambda s_\lambda$$

where the $c_{\mu\nu}^\lambda$ are again Littlewood-Richardson coefficients.

Similarly we can define the algebra of symmetric polynomials on n variables by setting $x_{n+1} = x_{n+2} = \dots = 0$ above and working with *Schur polynomials* $s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n)$. Observe that by the definition (1) if $\ell(\lambda) > n$ then $s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0$. The motivation for restricting to n variables is that the irreducible representations of $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ can be indexed such that

$$(2) \quad \text{char } \phi^\lambda = s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

See [2, 7] for further details.

2. IDENTICAL TENSOR PRODUCTS

We now begin to address the main problem of the paper, that is, to determine for which partitions λ, μ, ν, ρ we have

$$(3) \quad \phi^\lambda \otimes \phi^\mu \cong \phi^\nu \otimes \phi^\rho$$

for irreducible polynomial representations of $GL(n, \mathbb{C})$.

For ease of notation, we assume n is fixed throughout the remainder of the paper. Additionally, since $s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0$ for $\ell(\lambda) > n$, we assume that all partitions have at most n parts. We extend our partitions to exactly n parts by appending a string of $n - \ell(\lambda)$ 0s. For example, if $n = 4$ then $\lambda = 32$ becomes $\lambda = 3200$.

We now define an operation on diagrams that will be useful later.

Definition 2.1. *Given partitions λ and μ and an integer s such that $0 \leq s \leq n - 1$, the s -cut of λ and μ is the partition whose parts are*

$$\lambda_1 + \mu_1, \lambda_2 + \mu_2, \dots, \lambda_s + \mu_s, \\ \lambda_{s+1} + \mu_n, \lambda_{s+2} + \mu_{n-1}, \dots, \lambda_{n-1} + \mu_{s+2}, \lambda_n + \mu_{s+1}$$

listed in weakly decreasing order.

Remark 2.1. Diagrammatically we can think of the s -cut of λ and μ as

- (i) aligning the top rows of λ and μ then
- (ii) cutting the diagrams λ and μ between the s and $s + 1$ rows
- (iii) taking the rows of μ (or λ) below the cut and rotating them by 180°
- (iv) appending the newly aligned rows and sorting into weakly decreasing row length to make a diagram.

Example 2.2. If $n = 6$, then the 2-cut of 432110 and 543200 is 973321. This example can be viewed diagrammatically as the following.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \begin{array}{cccc} \times & \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times & \\ \times & \times & & \\ \times & & & \end{array} & \begin{array}{ccccc} \times & \times & \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times & \times & \\ & & & & \end{array} & \begin{array}{cccccccc} \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times & \\ \times & \times & \times & & & & & \\ \times & \times & \times & & & & & \\ \times & & & \times & \times & & & \\ & & & \times & \times & \times & & \end{array} \\
 \sim & &
 \end{array}$$

It transpires that the s -cut of λ and μ yields a condition on Littlewood-Richardson coefficients.

Lemma 2.2. *If λ , μ and s are as in Definition 2.1 and κ is the s -cut of λ and μ then $c_{\lambda\mu}^\kappa > 0$.*

Proof. Observe that since the Littlewood-Richardson and reverse Littlewood Richardson rule yield the same coefficients there must be a bijection, ψ , between the tableaux generated by each. This bijection will play a key role in the proof.

Consider creating a tableau T of shape κ/λ where $\kappa_i = \lambda_i + \mu_i$ for $1 \leq i \leq s$ that will contribute towards the coefficient $c_{\lambda\mu}^\kappa$. If we use the Littlewood-Richardson rule then it is clear that for $1 \leq i \leq s$ we must fill the boxes of the i -th row with the μ_i i s. Now all that remains for us to do is to fill the remaining boxes of T with μ_{s+1} $(s+1)$ s, \dots , μ_n n s. To do this we create a tableau T' of shape $\kappa_{s+1} \cdots \kappa_n / \lambda_{s+1} \cdots \lambda_n = \kappa / \kappa_1 \cdots \kappa_s \lambda_{s+1} \cdots \lambda_n$ that will contribute towards the coefficient $c_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma$ where $\alpha = \lambda_{s+1} \cdots \lambda_n$, $\beta = \mu_{s+1} \cdots \mu_n$ and $\gamma = \kappa_{s+1} \cdots \kappa_n$. We do this as follows.

Fill the box at the bottom of each column from left to right with μ_{s+1} 1s. Then repeat on the remaining boxes with the μ_{s+2} 2s. Iterate this procedure until the boxes are full. Observe by the reverse Littlewood-Richardson rule that this filling contributes 1 to the coefficient $c_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma$. Now using ψ , create a tableau T'' of the same shape that satisfies the Littlewood-Richardson rule and increase each entry by s , forming a tableau T''' . Placing the entries of T''' in the naturally corresponding boxes of T we see we have a tableau that contributes 1 to the coefficient $c_{\lambda\mu}^\kappa$ by the Littlewood-Richardson rule and indeed $c_{\lambda\mu}^\kappa > 0$. \square

Definition 2.3. *If λ , μ and s are as in Definition 2.1 then the s -poset of λ and μ is the set of all partitions κ such that*

- (i) $c_{\lambda\mu}^\kappa > 0$,

(ii) $\kappa_i = \lambda_i + \mu_i$ for all $1 \leq i \leq s$,

which are ordered lexicographically, that is, $\kappa > \kappa'$ if and only if there exists some i , where $1 \leq i \leq n$, such that $\kappa_1 = \kappa'_1, \dots, \kappa_{i-1} = \kappa'_{i-1}$ and $\kappa_i > \kappa'_i$.

Lemma 2.4. *If λ, μ and s are as in Definition 2.1 then the s -cut of λ and μ is the unique minimal element in the s -poset of λ and μ .*

Proof. Let ξ be any element in the s -poset of λ and μ and let U be any tableau that will contribute towards the coefficient $c_{\lambda\mu}^\xi$ via the Littlewood-Richardson rule. As in the proof of Lemma 2.2 it is clear that for $1 \leq j \leq s$ we have that j appears in every box of row j . Now consider the natural subtableau of shape $\xi_{s+1} \cdots \xi_n / \lambda_{s+1} \cdots \lambda_n$, which we denote by \overline{U} . Note that if we subtract s from every entry in \overline{U} then we obtain a tableau that contributes towards $c_{(\lambda_{s+1} \cdots \lambda_n)(\mu_{s+1} \cdots \mu_n)}^{(\xi_{s+1} \cdots \xi_n)}$ via the Littlewood-Richardson rule. If we then apply the bijection ψ to rearrange these new entries, we obtain a tableau U' that contributes towards $c_{(\lambda_{s+1} \cdots \lambda_n)(\mu_{s+1} \cdots \mu_n)}^{(\xi_{s+1} \cdots \xi_n)}$ via the reverse Littlewood-Richardson rule.

Now let κ be the s -cut of λ and μ . Let T and T' be the tableaux constructed in the proof of Lemma 2.2. Recall that T contributes towards the coefficient $c_{\lambda\mu}^\kappa$ via the Littlewood-Richardson rule, and that T' contributes towards $c_{(\lambda_{s+1} \cdots \lambda_n)(\mu_{s+1} \cdots \mu_n)}^{(\kappa_{s+1} \cdots \kappa_n)}$ via the reverse Littlewood-Richardson rule.

We now consider transforming T' into U' as follows. Since T' and U' both have content μ , we can map the boxes of T' bijectively to the boxes of U' such that the k -th box containing i from the left in T' maps to the k -th box containing i from the left in U' . This bijection factors as follows. First move each box in T' horizontally, so that it is in the same column as the corresponding box in U' . Then move each box vertically to form U' . By the construction of T' the entries are as left justified and low as possible, and so this transformation necessarily moves each box rightwards and upwards. It follows that κ , the shape of T' , is lexicographically less than or equal to ξ , the shape of U' , and we are done. \square

Recall that λ_n is the number of columns of length n in the diagram λ , and thus $(\lambda_n)^n$ is a subdiagram of λ . Define $\lambda^- := \lambda / (\lambda_n)^n$. Notice that λ^- is a Ferrers diagram, with at most $n - 1$ rows, and the number of columns of length $n - 1$ is λ_{n-1}^- . We therefore define $\lambda^{--} := \lambda^- / (\lambda_{n-1}^-)^{n-1}$. Notice that by (1) we have the factorization

$$(4) \quad s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n) = (x_1 \cdots x_n)^{\lambda_n} s_{\lambda^-}(x_1, \dots, x_n),$$

and moreover $x_1 \cdots x_n$ does not divide $s_{\lambda^-}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$.

Theorem 2.5. $\phi^\lambda \otimes \phi^\mu \cong \phi^\nu \otimes \phi^\rho$ as representations of $GL(n)$ if and only if $\lambda_n + \mu_n = \nu_n + \rho_n$ and $\{\lambda^-, \mu^-\} = \{\nu^-, \rho^-\}$ as multisets.

Proof. We will show that

$$(5) \quad s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_\mu(x_1, \dots, x_n) = s_\nu(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_\rho(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

if and only if $\lambda_n + \mu_n = \nu_n + \rho_n$ and $\{\lambda^-, \mu^-\} = \{\nu^-, \rho^-\}$. The theorem then follows, using (2).

One direction is immediate. Suppose $\lambda_n + \mu_n = \nu_n + \rho_n$ and $\{\lambda^-, \mu^-\} = \{\nu^-, \rho^-\}$, then by (4) we have

$$\begin{aligned} s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_\mu(x_1, \dots, x_n) &= (x_1 \cdots x_n)^{\lambda_n + \mu_n} s_{\lambda^-}(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_{\mu^-}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ &= (x_1 \cdots x_n)^{\nu_n + \rho_n} s_{\nu^-}(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_{\rho^-}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ &= s_\nu(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_\rho(x_1, \dots, x_n). \end{aligned}$$

For the opposite direction, assume that (5) holds. We first show that $\lambda_n + \mu_n = \nu_n + \rho_n$. If they were not equal, say $\lambda_n + \mu_n > \nu_n + \rho_n$, then by (4), we would have

$$(x_1 \cdots x_n)^{\lambda_n + \mu_n - \nu_n - \rho_n} s_{\lambda^-}(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_{\mu^-}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = s_{\nu^-}(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_{\rho^-}(x_1, \dots, x_n),$$

which is impossible since $x_1 \cdots x_n$ does not divide the right hand side. Similarly we cannot have $\lambda_n + \mu_n < \nu_n + \rho_n$. Thus, we see furthermore that

$$(6) \quad s_{\lambda^-}(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_{\mu^-}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = s_{\nu^-}(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_{\rho^-}(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

Let $S(n)$ be the assertion that the equation (6) holds only if $\{\lambda^-, \mu^-\} = \{\nu^-, \rho^-\}$. To complete the proof of the theorem, it remains to show that $S(n)$ is true for all n . We prove this by induction.

The base case $n = 1$ is trivial, since each of $\lambda^-, \mu^-, \nu^-, \rho^-$ is necessarily the empty partition.

Now assume that $S(1), \dots, S(n-1)$ are true. In particular this assumption implies that the theorem holds for smaller values of n . Furthermore, assume that (6) holds. Let

$$\begin{aligned} a &:= \lambda_{n-1}^- & c &:= \nu_{n-1}^- \\ b &:= \mu_{n-1}^- & d &:= \rho_{n-1}^- \end{aligned}$$

Since (6) implies

$$s_{\lambda^-}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) s_{\mu^-}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) = s_{\nu^-}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) s_{\rho^-}(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}),$$

by our inductive hypothesis we must have

$$a + b = c + d \quad \text{and} \quad \{\lambda^{--}, \mu^{--}\} = \{\nu^{--}, \rho^{--}\}.$$

Assume without loss of generality that $\lambda^{--} = \nu^{--} =: \alpha$ and $\mu^{--} = \rho^{--} =: \beta$. To show that $\{\lambda^-, \mu^-\} = \{\nu^-, \rho^-\}$, we need to check that $a = c$ and $b = d$, or that $a = d$, $b = c$ and $\alpha = \beta$.

To show this we note that if (6) holds then for all s , $0 \leq s \leq n-1$, the s -poset of λ^- and μ^- , must be the same as the s -poset of ν^- and ρ^- . Thus by Lemma 2.4, the s -cut of λ^- and μ^- must be the same as the s -cut of ν^- and ρ^- .

The s -cut of λ^- and μ^- has part sizes

$$\begin{aligned} a + b + \alpha_j + \beta_j & & 1 \leq j \leq s \\ a + b + \alpha_{s+j} + \beta_{n-j+1} & & 2 \leq j \leq n - s - 1 \\ a + \alpha_{s+1} & & \\ b + \beta_{s+1} & & \end{aligned}$$

whereas the s -cut of ν^- and ρ^- has part sizes

$$\begin{aligned} a + b + \alpha_j + \beta_j & & 1 \leq j \leq s \\ a + b + \alpha_{s+j} + \beta_{n-j+1} & & 2 \leq j \leq n - s - 1 \\ c + \alpha_{s+1} & & \\ d + \beta_{s+1} & & \end{aligned}$$

These lists must agree. Consequently we must have

$$a + \alpha_{s+1} = c + \alpha_{s+1} \quad \text{or} \quad a + \alpha_{s+1} = d + \beta_{s+1},$$

for all s . If, for any s , we are in the first situation, then $a = c$ and $b = d$ as desired. If not then

$$a + \alpha_{s+1} = d + \beta_{s+1} \quad \text{and} \quad c + \alpha_{s+1} = b + \beta_{s+1}$$

for all $0 \leq s \leq n - 1$. In particular, since $\alpha_{n-1} = \beta_{n-1} = 0$, we have $a = d$ and $b = c$, ensuring $\alpha_j = \beta_j$ for $1 \leq j \leq n - 1$. \square

Example 2.3. If $n = 3$,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & \times & \times & \times & \times \\ \lambda = & \times & \times & \times & \\ & \times & \times & & \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{cc} & \times & \times \\ \mu = & \times & \times \\ & & \end{array}$$

then $\phi^\lambda \otimes \phi^\mu \cong \phi^\nu \otimes \phi^\rho$ if and only if $\{\nu, \rho\}$ is equal to one of

$$\{\lambda, \mu\}, \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & & \end{array} \right\}, \quad \text{or} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} \times & \times & \times \\ \times & & \times \\ \times & & \end{array} \right\}.$$

We consequently obtain a strict lower bound on n , in terms of the size of the partitions, to guarantee that (3) has only trivial solutions.

Corollary 2.6. *Suppose m, m' are non-negative integers. If $n > \max\{m, m'\}$, then for any partitions $\lambda \vdash m$ and $\mu \vdash m'$, we have that*

$$(7) \quad \phi^\lambda \otimes \phi^\mu \cong \phi^\nu \otimes \phi^\rho$$

has only the trivial solution $\{\nu, \rho\} = \{\lambda, \mu\}$. If $\min\{m, m'\} \geq 2$ and $n \leq \max\{m, m'\}$, then there exist $\lambda \vdash m$ and $\mu \vdash m'$ for which (7) has non-trivial solutions.

3. SCHUR NON-NEGATIVITY

A question that has received much attention recently, for example [4, 6], is the question of Schur non-negativity. The notion of Schur non-negativity is of interest as it arises in the study of algebraic geometry [1], quantum groups [3], and branching problems in representation theory [5].

One of the most basic Schur non-negativity questions is the following. Given partitions λ, μ, ν, ρ when is the difference $s_\lambda s_\mu - s_\nu s_\rho$ a non-negative linear combination of Schur functions? Note that if $s_\lambda s_\mu - s_\nu s_\rho$ is Schur non-negative then the same is certainly true of the corresponding expression in finitely many variables

$$s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_\mu(x_1, \dots, x_n) - s_\nu(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_\rho(x_1, \dots, x_n).$$

The following yields a test for failure of Schur non-negativity.

Corollary 3.1. *For $0 \leq s \leq n-1$, let $\kappa = \kappa_1 \dots \kappa_n$ be the s -cut of λ and μ , and let $\xi = \xi_1 \dots \xi_n$ be the s -cut of ν and ρ . Form the sequences*

$$\sigma(s) := \kappa_1 \dots \kappa_s \xi_{s+1} \dots \xi_n \quad \text{and} \quad \tau(s) := \xi_1 \dots \xi_s \kappa_{s+1} \dots \kappa_n.$$

If there exists an s for which $\tau(s)$ is lexicographically greater than $\sigma(s)$, then

$$s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_\mu(x_1, \dots, x_n) - s_\nu(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_\rho(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

is not Schur non-negative.

Proof. Suppose the s -cut of λ and μ is not equal to the s -cut of ν and ρ , and let k be the first index in which they differ. If $k \leq s$, and $\xi_k > \kappa_k$, then by the Littlewood-Richardson rule, $c_{\lambda\mu}^\xi = 0$. On the other hand if $k > s$ and $\kappa_k > \xi_k$, then the same is true by Lemma 2.4. In either case, by Lemma 2.2, $c_{\nu\rho}^\xi > 0$, and thus

$$s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_\mu(x_1, \dots, x_n) - s_\nu(x_1, \dots, x_n) s_\rho(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

is not Schur non-negative. □

Example 3.1. Suppose $n = 3$, and

$$\begin{array}{ll} \lambda = 310 & \nu = 220 \\ \mu = 110 & \rho = 200. \end{array}$$

Then $\sigma(0) = 222 < 321 = \tau(0)$. Thus we can conclude that $s_\lambda s_\mu - s_\nu s_\rho$ is not Schur non-negative. On the other hand $\sigma(1) = 420 > 411 = \tau(1)$. Thus $s_\nu s_\rho - s_\lambda s_\mu$ is also not Schur non-negative.

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